

STATE OF WASHINGTON

HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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November 14, 2002

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents

K-12 School District Superintendents

Presidents of Community and Technical Colleges, Colleges, and Universities

Eisenhower Professional Development Program Directors

Nonprofit Organizations Other Interested Parties

FROM: Elaine Jones, Associate Director

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS 2002-2004: Washington Higher Education

Professional Development Partnership Grant Competition – School District

Participation in Required Partnerships

We hope you have had an opportunity to review the Request for Proposal (RFP) that we issued on October 31 for partnership grants that the Higher Education Coordinating Board will award next year under the higher education portion of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Title II: Improving Teacher Quality State Grants.

These grants will be issued to partnerships comprised of, at minimum, a school of education at a public or private institution of higher education, a school of arts and sciences, and a high-need local educational agency (LEA). We believe that these grants hold great promise for helping teachers, paraprofessionals, and/or principals who work in our most challenging K-12 schools acquire the professional development they need to enable all of their students to succeed.

As you know, the RFP is available at http://www.hecb.wa.gov/docs/titleIIrfp.pdf. Many of you already have noted that sections 2102(3) and 2131 of the Title II: Improving Teacher Quality State Grants requires a high-need LEA to meet not only a high-poverty element, but also to have a "high percentage" of teachers who either lack full teacher certification or who teach at least one class in an academic subject or grade level outside of their endorsement area.

Since issuing the RFP, we subsequently brought to the attention of the U.S. Department of Education the fact that all available data demonstrate that no Washington school district meets this second test. The Department of Education has informed us that in view of the impossibility of applying the second element of the law's definition in Washington State, it is satisfied that, notwithstanding these provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act, a partnership receiving a Title II, Part A, Subpart 3 award will only need to include a Washington school district that meets the high-poverty test in the definition of "high-need" LEA.

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A list of Washington school districts that meet the high-poverty appears at the end of this letter. Please note that **any** Washington LEA may participate in a funded partnership. In view of the Department of Education's interpretation, each funded partnership simply must include at least one LEA that meets the high-poverty criteria.

We are very excited about this competition, and hope you will be joining us either in person or by videoconference for the technical assistance workshop on Wednesday, November 20. Again, thank you very much for your interest in this program.

WASHINGTON STATE HIGHER EDUCATION 2002-2004 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP GRANT COMPETITION HIGH-NEED LEAS

Inchelium Concrete Hood Canal Nespelem Hoquiam Bickleton Crescent Newport Creston Keller Bremerton Nooksack Valley Curlew La Conner North Beach Brewster **Bridgeport** Cusick Lacrosse Northport Brinnon Elma Loon Lake Oakville Cape Flattery Endicott Mabton Ocosta Centerville **Evaline** Mansfield Odessa Chehalis Goldendale Mary Walker Okanogan Lake Chelan Grandview Mccleary Onalaska Clarkston Granger Morton Onion Orchard Prairie Clearwater-Queets Highland Mount Adams Orient Pasco Royal Seattle Orondo Quilcene Satsop Summit Valley Oroville **Ouinalt** Selkirk Sunnyside Taholah Othello Raymond Soap Lake Palisades Roosevelt South Bend Tekoa Palouse Touchet Valley Tonasket Walla Walla Rosalia Toppenish Wahluke Wellpinit Wenatchee Wishram Wapato Yakima

EJ:mc